April 2013 DEA Prescription Drug Take-Back Day Offers Consumers Another Opportunity for Convenient Medication Disposal

Consumers across the country will have another opportunity to help prevent abuse and misuse of prescription drugs by disposing of any unneeded or unwanted medications during the sixth Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) National Prescription Drug Take—Back Day, Saturday, April 27, 2013. On this day, from 10 AM to 2 PM, consumers may safely dispose of unwanted medications at one of thousands of collection sites coordinated by DEA and provided by law enforcement agencies and community organizations in all 50 states and United States jurisdictions. The DEA online collection site locator will be available in April 2013.

DEA Take-Back Days are a unique opportunity for consumers to safely and legally dispose of unneeded medications, including prescription controlled substances, such as certain pain medications, since the drugs can only be returned to law enforcement personnel. The take-back service is free and anonymous, with no questions asked. Sites will accept tablets, capsules, and all other solid dosage forms of unwanted medication. Personal information may be blacked out on prescription bottles, or medications may be emptied from the bottles into the bins provided at the events. A total of over 2 million pounds of unwanted medication were collected for safe and secure disposal during the previous five take-back days combined, reports DEA (PDF).